

**National Endowment of the Humanities**  
**Public Notice of Availability of the**  
**Final Finding of No Significant Impact**  
**and**  
**Environmental Assessment**  
**For**  
**Georgia O’Keeffe Museum Construction Project:**  
**Building a New Campus for the 21st Century**  
**(CHA-268762-20)**

**To: All Interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals**

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, the Council on Environmental Quality regulations for implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500 through 1508) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) implementing guidance, NEH has determined that that NEH federally assisted project by the Georgia O’Keeffe Museum (GOKM) to create a new museum campus in downtown Sante Fe, New Mexico, will have no significant adverse impact on the quality of the human environment. A draft Environmental Assessment (EA), Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was made available to the public for 30 days. No comments were received, and the documents are now final. Furthermore, because NEH has determined there will be no significant impact, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

The intent of the new GOKM is to create a welcoming and accessible campus for visitors and communities through innovative presentations of Georgia O’Keeffe’s art, the northern New Mexican landscape, and the lived experiences of Georgia O’Keeffe within the region. The new GOKM building will augment the functions of the existing ~12,000-square-foot, one-story, commercial structure at 217 Johnson Street, Santa Fe.

GOKM proposes to demolish an existing 19,000-square-foot commercial structure (originally built as a Safeway grocery store) and construct a new 56,288-square-foot building to house exhibition galleries, education facilities, visitor amenities, and collections storage and care spaces on two adjacent privately owned lots at 123 and 135 Grant Avenue in downtown Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87501. The lots are adjacent to the Marcy Street Offices, which serve as administrative offices for GOKM and the historic Otero-Bergere House, the location of the GOKM Research Center, Library, and Archives. The project location is in a highly disturbed urban area in the heart of downtown Santa Fe and surrounded by local businesses.

Demolition activities consist of removal of the existing Safeway building, parking lot, and parking kiosk, the removal of 21 feet of the existing white picket fence, and removal of a

stuccoed block wall to create a campus-type plan with an unimpeded flow between the two structures and establish a public garden space that will connect Grant and Sheridan Avenues.

The proposed action includes excavation for the ground floor and basement. The below ground construction will include spaces for a collections vault, a conservation lab, a digital imaging lab, workspaces, and other storage. The total depth of excavation will be 20 feet deep (6 meters) with a width of ~201 feet (61 meters) by ~179 feet (55 meters). The building includes an elevator shaft and will include a ramped construction entry from Grant Avenue.

The proposed landscaping will consist of refurbishing, maintaining, and adding and replacing multiple trees and gardens. New gates and pathways will be constructed for the public to walk on and through, throughout the GOKM campus. Temporary facilities for the construction activities will be located in the southeast corner of the lot at 123 Grant Avenue and include the field office, storage areas, sheds, and fencing, project identification sign, access routes, temporary utility routes and connections (including temporary electricity and lighting), sanitary facilities, trash receptacles, barriers for sediment and erosion control, and protection.

NEH Challenge funds will be used for excavation and archaeological recovery activities.

The final EA, signed FONSI, and Public Notice are available online at <https://www.neh.gov/our-work/historic-preservation-environmental>. Questions regarding the EA and FONSI may be addressed to Ann Piesen, NEH Federal Preservation and Environmental Officer at [apiesen@neh.gov](mailto:apiesen@neh.gov).